

HOME EDITION

MONDAY EVENING.

TOPEKA, KANSAS, MARCH 15, 1915.

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THIS EDITION 2 CENTS

## ASKING CITY FOR ELECTRIC LIGHT

Forty-Three Petitions Presented to Commission Today.

Would Submit Proposition to a Vote of the People.

## PLENTY OF ORATORY ON FLOOR

Business Men Urged That City Go Slowly in Action.

Commissioners Send Papers to Committee of Three.

Forty-three petitions, all numerously signed, were presented to the city commission today. The petitions ask that the city submit to a vote of the people a proposition for the issuance of bonds for the construction of a municipal electric plant to retail electric light, power and heat to the people of Topeka. They have been in circulation since October, 1914. Of the 43 petitions only ten apparently had been circulated to any considerable extent south of the Kansas river and west of Kansas avenue. Most of the signers live either in North Topeka, or east of Kansas avenue.

Coincident with the filing of the petitions was the filing of a printed report of the city's municipal street lighting plant for the year 1914. This is the first time in the history of the city that the annual report of the light department has appeared in pamphlet form. The report, the contents of which were published in the State Journal two months ago, indicates that the city is producing electricity at a much cheaper rate than the Edison company is charging for current. Officials of the Edison company claim that the city's report is misleading.

Flood of Oratory.  
Approximately 150 persons were present in anticipation of the presentation of the petitions. An attempt on the part of R. L. Coffey, mayor, to [Continued on Page Two.]

## MADE BAD NICKELS

Manhattan Counterfeiters Had Cave on Bank of Kaw.

U. S. Marshal Serves Warrants on Men in Jail.

Using a cave as a counterfeiting den and passing bad nickels is the charge that has been placed against Joe Allen and George Lawrence of Manhattan, Kan., by Fred Robertson of Topeka, United States district attorney. The two men are in the city jail, it is said, after a thorough sweating, Lawrence, in the Manhattan county jail, is said to have confessed to the counterfeiting. Otto T. Wood, United States marshal, left for Manhattan today to serve warrants on the two prisoners.

The government authorities allege that Allen and Lawrence had a complete counterfeiting plant in a cave near the bank of the Kaw river not far from Manhattan. The federal officers have been investigating the matter for some time and at the time of the raid it is claimed Allen and Lawrence threw their outfit into the river. Bad coins were passed in Manhattan, Stockdale, Gardner, Lawrence, Peterson, a Garrison merchant, and Albert Hanson and S. M. Adelleford of Stockdale were three of the victims.

## GLOOMY AND RAW

Still Another Wintry Consignment for Shivering Kansans.

Snow Reported for South Central Sections in Morning.

The weather was damp, gloomy and raw today. There was a brisk northerly wind. The railroads report a quarter of an inch to one inch of snow in central and southeast Kansas early this morning.

The minimum temperature—30 degrees—at 4 o'clock this morning was one degree below normal for this date. The wind held the weather needle down today. A year ago today the maximum temperature was 33 degrees; 25 years ago the minimum was 10 above zero.

The forecast calls for partly cloudy weather with little change in temperature. The shippers' forecast: "Protect 36 hour shipments north and west against temperature of 24 degrees; south and east, 24 to 28."

For the first time in several years the subsoil is well soaked. Wells are reported to be at normal stage and although there has been no rain the river has risen from 5.8 feet Saturday to 5.5 feet today.

Snow Flurries This Afternoon.  
There were snow flurries at Topeka early this afternoon. The temperature for the day average eight degrees below normal.

The hourly readings were:  
7 o'clock.... 31 11 o'clock.... 33  
8 o'clock.... 31 12 o'clock.... 35  
9 o'clock.... 32 1 o'clock.... 35  
10 o'clock.... 32 2 o'clock.... 35

Inch of Snow at Pittsburg.  
Pittsburg, Kan., March 15.—An inch of snow covered the ground at 10 o'clock this morning. The storm continued until 5:30 o'clock. Country roads already were almost impassable and farmers have not been able to get into their fields.

Snow; Then Clear.  
Hutchinson, Kan., March 15.—Nearly an inch of snow fell during the night, following a light rain. The skies are clearing this morning.

Weather Forecast for Kansas.  
Partly cloudy tonight and Tuesday; not much change in temperature.

## CONDITIONS IN GERMANY.

Vienna, March 15.—In the official reports issued by the city of Vienna as to conditions here during wartime it is pointed out today that Germany and Austria-Hungary through the war have suffered economically no more than the allies and the neutral powers. As proof thereof the fact is given that savings bank deposits in 1914 decreased only 27,000,000 crowns and that the money market continues extraordinarily easy. The supply of foodstuffs during January in general was sufficient although various articles of necessity showed an increase in price. Only the flour situation has not improved owing to the existing high prices for wheat and flour in Vienna and other communities.

## U. S. WILL PROTEST

British Order in Council Violates International Law.

Also Violation of the Treaty Rights of This Country.

Washington, March 15.—The United States will vigorously protest England's latest shipping order. Officials say that it is a flagrant violation of international law and the rights of neutrals. Failure to specifically proclaim a blockade to be maintained by ships of war off Germany's seaports is declared to make the "order in council" issued in London a distinct violation of the treaty rights of the United States with both England and France.

## CAPT. KING DIES

Veteran Newspaper Editor Passes Away This Afternoon

At the Home of His Daughter in St. Louis.

St. Louis, March 15.—Capt. Henry King, who recently retired as managing editor of the St. Louis Globe-Democrat, died at the home of his daughter here this afternoon.



Captain Henry King, Who Died Today.

Democrat, died at the home of his daughter here this afternoon. Captain King had been seriously ill for three weeks, and after he had been unable to go to the Globe-Democrat office for several days he sent in his resignation. Prior to his last illness, he appeared in good health, though he was seriously affected by the intense heat in the summer of 1913 and was forced to take a vacation of several weeks.

Death was due to a complication of diseases, chief of which was bronchitis. For several years Captain King had lived at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Kelsie J. Hawley, wife of a physician. The wife of Captain King died several years ago.

Captain Henry King, retired from the managing editorship of the St. Louis Globe-Democrat on Feb. 26, 1915 after more than 50 years in active newspaper work. His first notable assignment was to cover the Lincoln-Douglas debates in 1858. From that date until his retirement he was in daily newspaper work, save for the four years he spent in the Union army during the Civil war. He retired from the army with the rank of captain.

Henry King was born in Salem, O., May 11, 1842, and married Miss Maria Louise Lane in 1861. After leaving the army he returned to newspaper work in Quincy, where he was editor of the Whig. Later he went to Topeka, Kan., and with Joseph K. Hudson, founded the Topeka Capital.

While in Topeka, he became nationally prominent as a writer, some of his contributions appearing in the most select eastern magazines. In 1882 he joined the staff of the St. Louis Globe-Democrat as an editorial writer. He rapidly won his way into the confidence of Joseph B. McCullagh, then managing editor, becoming his chief associate. Joseph McCullagh died in December, 1905, and Capt. King was appointed his successor as managing editor in charge both of the news department and of the editorial page.

To his new duties Captain King brought every energy. The work of editorial writing, in which he had won fame, shifted largely to the editorial shoulders but until his retirement he actively directed the editorial page, and often wrote editorials.

## HOUSES TRYING TO GET TOGETHER

Special Joint Committee on Appropriations in Session.

Legislative Members Look for Loophole of Agreement.

## OTHERWISE AN ADJOURNMENT

If This Last Effort Fails, Lawmakers Must Return.

Real Hope of Settlement in Hearts of Legislators Today.

After nearly four hours in executive session today, the house and senate conferees on methods of procedure of the Kansas 1915 legislature were

## BURYING DEAD AUSTRIANS ON BATTLEFIELD BEFORE PRZEMYSL



No individual graves, no funeral ceremonies, no tombstone or even a cross mark the graves of the fallen soldiers on Europe's battlefields. This picture was taken before the fortress of Przemyśl after a furious attack upon the Austrian trenches in the vicinity by the Russian legions. The Austrians won the day and repulsed the invaders, but with heavy losses to themselves. After the battle the Austrian dead were gathered in a heap, a long trench was dug and the bodies thrown in. The regimental band struck up a mournful tune and the burial was complete.

unable to reach an agreement as to the appropriation deadlock. At 4 o'clock the committee was still arguing the case. Further than to state that an agreement was "possible," conferees declined to discuss proceedings in the committee room.

It is possible that a report may be made late today.

Several house members have gone home. They have stated that they will not return.

Members of a special joint committee from the house and senate are today looking for a loophole that will permit escape from the appropriation deadlock. The committee held its first session this morning and will try to suggest to both legislative bodies a solution of the present difficulties.

Should the committee fail to agree on a method of procedure, it is probable an adjournment will be had this week and a special session called.

Among members of both house and senate today was a new hope that the appropriation deadlock would be solved. It is much the same hope that marked the appointment of the second joint committee to consider appropriations. Maybe the present appointees will have better success than did the first conferees. They failed entirely in an effort to agree and the present committee on methods of procedure was appointed as the only solution.

It is claimed that members of the house committee will contend for the Wayman resolution. That means the passage of the maintenance and improvement items and the general executive and judicial budgets, leaving the buildings until all other work is disposed of.

On the other hand, there has come from the senate a declaration that the only fair way for both houses to settle the matter is to itemize all appropriation bills, pass them and permit the governor to veto such appropriations as he deems unnecessary. A solution of the matter in joint session of the two houses, if provision for the same can be found, was also suggested.

A number of other propositions are also pending and it is probable that the committee will remain in session the entire day.

## CALLS OFF HIS DOGS OF WAR

Carranza Has Abandoned the Blockade of Progreso.

American Ships With Twine Clear Without Hindrance.

## A HOT NOTE WAS ON THE WAY

President Wilson Insists Strongly on the Open Door.

The Des Moines Is There to Back It Up.

Washington, March 15.—General Carranza has abandoned his blockade of the port of Progreso on urgent representations by the United States.

## GERMAN CENTER HAS BEEN MOVED

Shifted in an Effort to Raise Siege Przemyśl.

Greece Has Offered 9,000 Men for Dardanelles Attack.

## BULGARIA WANTS TO FIGHT

She Can't Determine on Which Side to Enlist.

Allies Are Taking the Offensive on Western Front.

London, March 15.—A new phase of the campaign in the east has developed in an attempt by Austro-German forces in Galicia to relieve Przemyśl.

## TEACH WOMEN TO SAVE.

Hamburg, March 15.—The Hamburger Housewives League is preparing to open a bureau for housewives and cooks, at which the latter may be given instructions and advice regarding the value of war food supplies and the nutritive qualities of various products. War cook books and pamphlets will be distributed without cost if necessary. The bureau also will maintain an employment agency for the benefit of housewives who, now that their husbands are at war, must seek employment.

## WANTS 'EM BACK

Anti-Commission League Demands City Petitions.

Mandamus Proceedings May Be Result of Fight.

A committee representing the Anti-Commission League appeared before the city commission today and made formal demand that the now famous "grave-yard" petitions asking for the holding of an election to vote on retaining or rejecting the present form of city government be returned to the petitioners. Captain P. H. Coney acted as spokesman, and claimed that he had a legal right to have the petitions returned to him.

His request was denied by the city commission and the city attorney was instructed to prepare a written legal opinion on the rights of the city commission to retain the petitions as official city documents.

It is understood that the Anti-Commission League intends to institute mandamus proceedings in the state supreme court to secure possession of the petitions. No explanation has been made of why the league desires to have the petitions returned.

## FALL OF SMYRNA

It Is Predicted Before the End of the Week.

Allied Fleet Still Hammering at the Dardanelles Forts.

London, March 15.—The fall of Smyrna before the end of the week was predicted in Athens dispatches received here today. More warships have been sent to reinforce Rear Admiral Pelce, whose squadron is smashing away at the Turkish forts, and the Smyrna garrison is reported to be preparing to evacuate.

Meanwhile, another attack on the Dardanelles forts has begun inside the strait. Mine sweepers, whose work was hampered by the fire from the Turkish land batteries on the European side, have resumed clearing the waters inside the entrance under protection of French cruisers. Several allied battleships swept into the strait early Sunday, according to Athens dispatches, and their shells are again grinding away at the land batteries.

An attempt to seize the isthmus above Bulair and cut the line of communication from Constantinople to the European front has been renewed. The British fleet, which has been supported by several cruisers, is pounding away at the enemy's batteries from the Gulf of Saros. Part of the allied fleet is believed to be en route to the Dardanelles will be landed near Bulair. It is believed at Athens, if the Queen Elizabeth succeeds in silencing the Bulair guns.

Dispatches from Sofia today carry further reports of panicky conditions in Constantinople. Refugees declared it has been decided to evacuate the Turkish government to remove the capital to Eski Shersah, in Asia Minor.

## ZERBST TO ATLANTA.

Assistant at Leavenworth Prison Is Promoted to a Warden.

Leavenworth, Kan., March 15.—Frederick Zerbst, formerly warden of the federal prison at Atlanta, began his government service 20 years ago when he was appointed a guard at the prison here. Zerbst was promoted through all the minor positions at the prison, finally becoming day captain.

Two years ago, when the federal parole law was enacted, he became parole agent for the Leavenworth prison. Last year, when Thomas W. Morgan was appointed warden here, Zerbst was promoted to assistant warden. He is 45 years old. Warden Morgan said Zerbst's promotion was along the line of the purpose of the department of justice to advance officers from the ranks, thus keeping prisons removed from politics.

## THAW BACK TO PRISON

Must Wait Until Tuesday for the Court's Decision.

New York, March 15.—Judge Page announced today he would render a decision until tomorrow on the application of Harry K. Thaw that he should be returned to New Hampshire. Meanwhile, Thaw is being held in the custody of the sheriff, despite an appeal made by Deputy Attorney General Kennedy that Thaw be released. Thaw's general secretary, the French steamer Guadeloupe, who was taken to Pernambuco by the British steamer Churchill.

The Guadeloupe was sent to the bottom by the Kron Prinz Wilhelm off the island of Fernando de Noronha off the eastern extremity of Brazil.

## GREAT BRITAIN HAS COME BACK

All Vessels Sailing to or From German Ports

Will Be Subject to Seizure and Detention From March 1.

## ORDER IN COUNCIL ISSUED

States That England's Allies Are in Accord With Her.

There Is To Be No Sinking of Anybody's Ships.

London, March 15.—The British order in council decreeing retaliatory measures on the part of the government to meet the declaration of the Germans that the waters surrounding the United Kingdom are a military area was made public today.

The text of the order in council follows: "Whereas, the German government has issued certain orders which, in violation of the usages of war, purport to declare that the waters surrounding the United Kingdom are a military area in which all British allied merchant vessels will be destroyed, irrespective of the safety and the lives of the passengers and the crews and in which neutral shipping will be exposed to similar danger in view of the uncertainties of naval warfare.

"And whereas, the memorandum accompanying the said orders, neutrals are warned against entrusting crews, passengers or goods to British or allied ships;

"And whereas, such attempts on the part of the enemy give to his majesty an unquestionable right of retaliation;

"And whereas, his majesty has therefore decided to adopt further measures in order to prevent commodities of any kind from reaching or leaving Germany, although such measures will be enforced without risk to neutral ships or to neutral or noncombatant life, and in strict observance of the dictates of humanity;

"And whereas, the allies of his majesty are associated with him in the steps for restricting further the commerce of Germany, it is hereby ordered as follows:

The Order.  
"First—no merchant vessel which sailed from her port of departure after March 1, 1915, shall be allowed to proceed on her voyage to any German port."

## ATTACKS THE POPE

Maeterlinck Accuses Vatican of Siding With Germany.

He Tries to Arouse Italy to Join the Allies.

(By Alice Rohe.)  
Rome, March 15.—Maurice Maeterlinck, noted Belgian author who is attempting to stir up pro-allied sentiment by lectures throughout Italy, today made a savage attack on the Vatican for maintaining a neutral attitude in the war.

He declared that the Holy See, in taking the position, has abandoned the teaching of Christ.

Maeterlinck delivered his bitter criticism of the Vatican in the course of an appreciation of America's attitude toward the starving people of Belgium.

"On the other hand," said the Belgian writer, "I am sorry to say that the Vatican has not followed the teachings of Jesus Christ. The Vatican in this war has sided with the rich oppressor—Germany—with the oppressor, the suffering, and the poor. Its pro-German sympathies are bound to hurt the church in Belgium and France after the war. I regret that the Vatican has abandoned the teachings of Jesus Christ."

Maeterlinck's lectures throughout Italy have been followed by demonstrations on the part of those favoring Italy's entrance into the war on the side of the allies. The attack upon the Vatican today, however, was received with displeasure by some of the allies' leading sympathizers.

It is generally believed here that, although praying for peace, Pope Benedict will prove himself a thorough Italian, if events force Italy into the war on whatever side the die casts her. The belief prevails that neither the Holy Father nor any of his prelates through his suggestion are doing anything to bring religious pressure to bear upon the Italian government.

Maeterlinck expressed pleasure today over reports from Trieste that Prince Von Buelow had been unable to win from the Austrian emperor approval of a plan for ceding Austrian territory to Italy in return for Italy's participation as an ally of the Austro-Germans.

"I do not believe the people of Italy would submit to an Italian-German alliance for war," he said decisively. "The spirit of Italy is in favor of the allies. A revolution would result if Von Buelow's scheming put Italy in the war on the side of the kaiser."

## HAS SUNK 13 VESSELS

Kron Prinz Wilhelm, German Auxiliary Cruiser, on Her Happy Way.